

Message Text

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PAGE 01 HELSIN 00811 171335Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03
LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15
STR-07 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01
DOE-11 /117 W

-----025473 180712Z /13

R 171210Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2490
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY PARIS

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USOECD

USMTN

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, FI
SUBJECT: TESTIMONY FOR HEARING ON "BUY AMERICA" BILL

REF: STATE 061254,

1. STATISTICS ARE NOT AVAILABLE THAT WOULD PROVIDE A
BASIS FOR ESTIMATES OF THE TOTAL VALUE OF PURCHASE OF
US PRODUCTS BY THE FINNISH GOVERNMENT IN RECENT YEARS.
THE HEAD OF THE FINNISH GOVERNMENT'S STATE PROCUREMENT
OFFICE HAS INFORMED THE EMBASSY'S COMMERCIAL OFFICER THAT HIS
OFFICE DOES NOT MAINTAIN SUCH RECORDS. THE MOST SIGNIFICANT
PROCUREMENT FROM AMERICAN SOURCES BY AN ENTITY CONTROLLED BY THE
FINNISH GOVERNMENT IS FINNAIR'S ORDERS OF MCDONNELL-DOUGLAS AIR-
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CRAFT. SINCE 1969 FINNAIR ESTIMATES THAT TOTAL ORDERS OF AIRCRAFT
SPARES AND COMPONENTS FROM THE UNITED STATES AMOUNT TO
\$202 MILLION. FINNAIR HAS RECENTLY INFORMED THE
EMBASSY THAT IT EXPECTS TO PLACE ADDITIONAL ORDER
WITH AMERICAN MANUFACTURERS DURING THE NEXT DECADE
THAT WOULD AMOUNT TO \$450-\$550 MILLION.

2. PROCUREMENT BY THE FINNISH GOVERNMENT FROM FOREIGN SOURCES OF GOODS COMPARABLE TO THOSE MANUFACTURED DOMESTICALLY IS PRACTICALLY NONEXISTENT. ACCORDINGLY, SHOULD THE FINNISH GOVERNMENT DECIDE IN RETALIATION AGAINST USG PROCUREMENT PRACTICES TO REDUCE PURCHASES FROM THE UNITED STATES, SUCH POLICY WOULD HAVE TO DISCRIMINATE IN FAVOR OF PURCHASES FROM THIRD COUNTRIES.

3. THE FINNS CONTINUE TO SHOW GREAT INTEREST IN THE POSSIBILITY THAT EVENTUALLY A FINNISH ICEBREAKER MAY BE PROCURED BY THE COAST GUARD FOR USE ON THE GREAT LAKES. THERE CAN BE LITTLE DOUBT THAT SHOULD SUCH PROCUREMENT BE JEOPARDIZED BY ACTIONS BY THE US GOVERNMENT TO INCREASE PREFERENCES ACCORDED AMERICAN SHIPYARDS, THERE WOULD BE A COOLING IN FINNISH-AMERICAN BILATERAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS.

RIDGWAY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Concepts: DOLLAR, COMMODITY AGREEMENTS, LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY, ECONOMIC PROGRAMS
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3294591
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TESTIMONY FOR HEARING ON "BUY AMERICA" BILL
TAGS: ETRD, FI
To: STATE
Type: TE
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